

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331

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ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: P.O. BOX 1460 ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

June 16, 2015

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

**Dear Supervisors:** 

# **ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

PATRICK OFFICER
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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June 16, 2015

FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LANCASTER AND PALMDALE (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)

(3 VOTES)

## **SUBJECT**

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board pursuant to Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, which provides for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

169 East Avenue F, Lancaster, California 93535
40196 177th Street East, Palmdale, California 93591
20232 East Lancaster Boulevard, Lancaster, California 93535
45554 245th Street East, Lancaster, California 93535
38939 8th Street East, Palmdale, California 93550
5333 West Avenue L4, Lancaster, California 93536
41117 161st Street East, Lancaster, California 93535

### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through

rehabilitation procedures. Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

# <u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3) as it provides services to the public that have a wide-reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance. This action will also maximize opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety services.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owner(s). Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Building Code provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owner(s) be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, the Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to the Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of the substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

The Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before the Board.

ADDRESS: 169 East Avenue F, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Order: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: that by June 19, 2015, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to code or demolished. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

#### List of Defects

1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards

of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.

- 2. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 3. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 4. The nonconforming detached accessory structure is in a state of disrepair.

ADDRESS: 40196 177th Street East, Palmdale, California 93591

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 19, 2015, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture, appliances, equipment, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter, (b) that by June 19, 2015, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to code or demolished, (c) that by June 19, 2015, the wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) and parts thereof be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter, and (d) that the structure be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. The building is fire damaged and open and accessible to children, vandalized, and a threat to public safety and welfare.
- 3. Portions of the interior and exterior walls are fire damaged.
- 4. Doors and windows are broken.
- 5. The building contains a fire-damaged ceiling and roof supports or systems.
- 6. The electrical system is nonconforming and fire damaged.
- 7. Attractive nuisances dangerous to children in the form of abandoned or broken equipment, neglected machinery, refrigerators, and freezers.
- 8. Broken or discarded furniture and/or household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 9. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 10. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 11. Wrecked, dismantled, or inoperative vehicles or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

The interior of the building was not readily accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

ADDRESS: 20232 East Lancaster Boulevard, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 19, 2015, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to code or demolished, (b) that the structure be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry, and (c) that the property be maintained secured. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. The building was open and accessible to children, vandalized, and a threat to public safety and welfare until it was barricaded.
- 3. Portions of the interior and exterior walls are defective, deteriorated, and inadequate.
- 4. The building contains a defective, deteriorated, and inadequate ceiling and roof supports or systems.
- 5. The electrical system is nonconforming and potentially hazardous.

The interior of the building was not readily accessible for inspection; therefore, additional defects may be found when an interior inspection is made.

ADDRESS: 45554 245th Street East, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 19, 2015, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded equipment, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter, (b) that by June 19, 2015, permits be obtained and the structure be repaired to code or demolished, and (c) that by June 19, 2015, the abandoned wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s), including trailers, and parts thereof be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter. Demolition includes the removal of all foundations, slabs, walks, driveways, debris, and the proper abandonment of any sewer or sewage disposal system.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Broken or discarded furniture and/or household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.

- 3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 4. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 5. Cargo containers and a camper stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
- 6. Wrecked, dismantled, or inoperative vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 38939 8th Street East, Palmdale, California 93550

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 19, 2015, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture, appliances, equipment, miscellaneous personal property, and all overgrown vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter, and (b) that by June 19, 2015, the abandoned wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) and parts thereof be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Overgrown vegetation, dead trees, and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
- 3. Attractive nuisances dangerous to children in the form of abandoned or broken equipment, neglected machinery, refrigerators, and freezers.
- 4. Broken or discarded furniture and/or household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 5. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 6. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 7. Boats stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
- 8. Inoperative vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 5333 West Avenue L4, Lancaster, California 93536

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 19, 2015, the property be cleared of all trash, debris, miscellaneous personal property, dead trees and parts thereof, and all overgrown vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that the wooden structure be maintained secured to prevent unauthorized entry.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Dead vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
- 3. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.

ADDRESS: 41117161st Street East, Lancaster, California 93535

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by June 19, 2015, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by June 19, 2015, the wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) and parts thereof be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

#### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
- 3. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 4. Trailers, campers, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
- 5. Inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Not applicable.

#### CONCLUSION

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstructs the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Hail Farher

Respectfully submitted,

**GAIL FARBER** 

Director

GF:DH:nm

c: Chief Executive Office (Rochelle Goff) County Counsel

**Executive Office**